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**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

**(ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL, DIVISIONAL,  
CONTINUATION, OR C-I-P)**

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As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

**TYPE OF DECLARATION**

This declaration is for a national stage of a PCT application.

**INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION**

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below, next to my name. I believe that I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter that is claimed, and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**TITLE OF INVENTION**

VALVE ASSEMBLY

**SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION**

The specification is attached hereto.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR**

I/We hereby state that I/we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I/We acknowledge the duty to disclose information, which is material to patentability as defined in 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56, and which is material to the examination of this application, namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent.

**CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF EARLIER U.S/PCT APPLICATION(S)  
UNDER 35 U.S.C. SECTION 120**

I/We hereby claim the benefit, under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120, of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

PRIOR U.S. APPLICATIONS OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S. FOR BENEFIT UNDER 35 U.S.C. SECTION 120:				
U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION		STATUS		
U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION	U.S. FILING DATE	Patented	Pending	Abandoned
60/481,495	October 9, 2003			
PCT APPLICATION DESIGNATING THE U.S.				
PCT APPLICATION NO.	PCT FILING DATE	U.S. APPLICATION NOS. ASSIGNED (IF ANY)		

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

I/We hereby appoint the practitioner(s) associated with the Customer Number provided below to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

**Customer Number     32827**

**SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:**

**DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:**

**Customer Number     32827**

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## DECLARATION

I/We hereby declare that all statements made herein of my/our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

## SIGNATURE(S)

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